STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS (TMDLs) FOR SILTATION IN THE CLEAR FORK OF THE CUMBERLAND RIVER WATERSHED (HUC 05130101), TENNESSEE

Announcement is hereby given of the availability of Tennessee's proposed Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for siltation in the Clear Fork of the Cumberland River Watershed located in Northeast Tennessee. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires states to develop TMDLs for waters on their impaired waters list. TMDLs must determine the allowable pollutant load that the water can assimilate, allocate that load among the various point and nonpoint sources, include a margin of safety, and address seasonality.

A number of waterbodies in the Clear Fork of the Cumberland River Watershed are listed on Tennessee's final Year 2008 303(d) list as not supporting designated use classifications due, in part, to loss of biological integrity due to siltation associated with abandoned mining, coal mining discharges, and runoff from highways, roads, and bridges. The TMDLs utilize Tennessee's general water quality criteria, ecoregion reference site data, land use data, digital elevation data, a sediment loading and delivery model, and an appropriate Margin of Safety (MOS) to establish reductions in sediment loading which will result in reduced in-stream concentrations and the attainment of water quality standards. The TMDLs require reductions in sediment loading of approximately 35% to 85% in the listed waterbodies.

INFORMATION: TMDL Document (requires Adobe Reader)

Technical questions regarding this TMDL should be directed to the following members of the Division of Water Pollution Control staff:

Bruce R. Evans, P.E., Watershed Management Section Telephone: 615-532-0668

e-mail: Bruce.Evans@state.tn.us

Sherry H. Wang, Ph.D., Watershed Management Section

Telephone: 615-532-0656 e-mail: Sherry.Wang@state.tn.us

Persons wishing to comment on the TMDLs are invited to submit their comments in writing no later than February 17, 2009 to:

Division of Water Pollution Control Watershed Management Section 6th Floor, L & C Annex 401 Church Street Nashville, TN 37243-1534

All comments received prior to that date will be considered when revising the TMDL for final submittal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The TMDL and supporting information are on file at the Division of Water Pollution Control, 6th Floor, L & C Annex, 401 Church Street, Nashville, Tennessee. They may be inspected during normal office hours. Copies of the information on file are available on request.